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# Kucong language

**Kucong** (Khucong, Cosung), or **Lahlu**, is a Loloish language of Yunnan and Vietnam. In Vietnam, the speakers' autonym is *kʰu˧ tsʰɔ˧*, and are also known as the *La Hủ Na* 'Black Lahu' (Edmondson 2002). It is very closely related to Lahu.

| Kucong | |
|---|---|
| **Native to** | China, Vietnam |
| **Region** | Yunnan |
| **Native speakers** | 50,000 (2007)[1] |
| **Language family** | Sino-Tibetan<br>▪ (Tibeto-Burman)<br>▪ Lolo–Burmese<br>▪ Loloish<br>▪ Lahoish<br>▪ Lahu<br>▪ **Kucong** |
| **Language codes** | |
| **ISO 639-3** | `lkc` |
| **Glottolog** | `kuco1235 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kuco1235)`[2] |

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## Distribution

### Vietnam

**Kucong**, or **Black Lahu**, is spoken in the following villages of Ca Lăng Commune, Mường Tè District, Lai Châu Province, Vietnam (Edmondson 2002).

- Nậm Phìn
- Nậm Khao
- Nậm Cấu
- Phìn Hồ
- Nậm Xả

The Kucong, or Black Lahu, live adjacently to the La Hủ Sủ (Yellow Lahu) and La Hủ Phung (White Lahu). The **Yellow Lahu** are distributed in the following locations.

- Pa Vệ Sủ Commune
- Pa Ủ Commune
- Ca Lăng Commune (in Là Pé, Nhu Tè, and Hóm Bô)

The **White Lahu** live in the following locations, often together with the Yellow Lahu.

- Pa Ủ Commune (in Xà Hồ, Ử Ma, Pha Bu, Pa Ử, and Khồ Ma)
- Ca Lăng Commune (in Hà Xe)

The Kucong and related Lahu groups had originally come from the Jinping County area of southern Yunnan, China (Edmondson 2002).

### China

Sun Hongkai (1992) reports 30,000 Kucong speakers in Yunnan, China. Chang Suanzhi (2011:5) recognizes 3 branches of Kucong.

- **Black Kucong 黑苦聪** (**Lahu Na**; autonym **Guocuo 锅搓** or **Guochou 郭抽**) is spoken in Zhenyuan, Mojiang, Jiangcheng, Yuanjiang, and Mengla counties, and in Mường Tè District, Vietnam. Chang Suanzhi (2011) covers the Black Kucong dialect of Shaohuiqing[zhai], Dangduo Village, Yangjie Township, Yuanjiang County (元江县羊街乡党舵村烧灰箐寨).[3] Their autonym in Yuanjiang County is *kɔ˨˩ tsʰɔ˧*.[4]
- **Yellow Kucong 黄苦聪** (**Lahu Shi**) is spoken in Jinping County.
- **White Kucong 白苦聪** (**Lahu Pu**) is spoken in two villages of Zhemi Township 者米乡, Jinping County.

Li & Zhang (2003)[5] report that there are about 30,000 Kucong people in Yunnan. Zhenyuan County has more than 13,000 Kucong people; western Jinping County has more than 6,000 Kucong people; and Xinping County has more than 4,000 Kucong people. Li & Zhang (2003) cover the Kucong dialect of Kudumu Village 库独木村, Pingzhang Township 平掌乡, Xinping County 新平县. In Xinping County, their autonym is *kɔ˧ tsʰɔ˥˩*, which means 'mountain people.'

In Yuanjiang County, Yunnan, Kucong (960 people total) is spoken in the following villages.)[6]

- Xingfu Village 幸福村, Dong'e Town 东峨镇 (536 people)
- Damansha Village 大漫沙村, Mili Township 咪哩乡[7] (129 people)
- Shaohuiqingzhai 烧灰箐寨, Yangjie Township 羊街乡 (186 people)

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